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Title: Evaluation of GradeMark for electronic assessment & feedback: Staff and students' perspectives.

Relevant themes:

Assessment for learning
Assessment technologies

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Grademark is an electronic feedback tool provided by Turnitin. It has the potential to provide benefits for both students and markers. Students can be given 'in context' feedback (similar to writing comments on a paper assignment) which can be viewed in the format originally submitted by the student. Marking is simplified by the provision of grading rubrics and quick mark comments which can be shared between assignment markers. This has the potential to improve consistency when multiple markers are required due to large cohort size. In addition, plagiarism reports can be viewed.

We have previously provided assignment feedback to students on paper however this has a number of disadvantages. Paper feedback may be illegible, remain uncollected and varies significantly between markers. To address these issues we then implemented electronic feedback using a word document uploaded to the Blackboard GradeCentre. However, this was not cost effective regarding administrative staff time. GradeMark appears to offer a solution to all of these issues; however before formally adopting GradeMark as part of our assessment process evaluation is required.

Three first year undergraduate summative assignments were submitted and marked using GradeMark. Informal feedback from staff during the marking

periods identified a number of issues and concerns. Although staff views have been discussed previously¹ we will present data on the use of GradeMark from both the staff and student perspectives. Staff and students are being invited to complete separate online questionnaires regarding the benefits and drawbacks of the use of GradeMark for summative assessment and feedback.

1. Chew E, Price T,. *Online Originality Checking and Online Assessment - an Extension of Academics or Disruption for Academics*. S. L. Wong et al. (Eds.) (2010). Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Computers in Education. Putrajaya, Malaysia: Asia-Pacific Society for Computers in Education.